Section 2-6 and 3-6 Special Meetings-Written Notice September 14, 2020

Councilor Wheeler

9:51 AM (10 minutes ago)

to 2020

Dear committee members,

Please consider making recommendations upon the following change(s) in Charter §2-6 and 3-6. Forgive me for submitting them at the final hour.

Article 2 Legislative Branch

SECTION 2-6**Exercise of powers; quorum; rules.**

(c)

Rules of procedure. The Town Council shall from time to time adopt rules regulating its procedures, which shall be in addition to the following:

<u>2.</u>

Special meetings of the Town Council shall be held at the call of the Council President, or, on the call of any five or more members, by written notice delivered in hand or to the place of residence of each member and which contains a listing of the items to be acted upon. Except in case of an emergency, of which the Council President shall be judge, such notice shall be delivered at least 48 hours in advance of the time set for such meeting. A copy of the notice to members shall, forthwith, be posted upon the Town bulletin board.

Comment: The clerk's office finds the requirement to hand deliver special meeting notices onerous and outdated. (Each councilor is provided with their own email address and ChromeBook when they take office.) I recommend striking clause (c) 2 above and replacing it with the following:

Special meetings of the Town Council shall be held at the call of the Council President

or at the call of any five or more members, for any purpose. Notice of the meeting shall

be delivered to each member and shall specify the date, time and location of the

meeting and list the items to be acted upon. Except in case of an emergency, of which

the Council President shall be judge, such notice shall be delivered at least 48 hours in

advance of the time set for such meeting. A copy of the notice to members shall be

posted forthwith.

Article 3 contains similar language, and I would recommend simplifying it as well.

Article 3 Executive Branch

SECTION 3-6Communications; special meetings.

(b)

Special meetings of the Town Council. The Mayor may at any time call a special

meeting of the Town Council, for any purpose, by causing a notice of such meeting to

be delivered in hand or to the place of business or residence of to each member of the

Town Council. Such notice shall, except in an emergency of which the Mayor shall be

the sole judge, be delivered at least 48 weekday hours in advance of the time set and

shall specify the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is to be held. A copy of

each such notice shall, forthwith, be posted on the Town bulletin board.

Thank you,

Otis Wheeler

City Council Vice President Precinct 7

413.376.5501

City of Greenfield

14 Court Square

Greenfield, MA 01301

http://greenfield-ma.gov

Disclaimer: this correspondence is part of the public record and should not be considered confidential.